

NEW DISEASES, VITALITY PRIDE

Dr. H. N. Mueller, City Physician,
Reports Influenza Lowering
Mortality Rate.

Little disease was prevalent in Rock Island and no epidemics prevailed. Dr. Albert N. Mueller, city health physician, says in the annual report of the department of health for 1922. Sickness was at a low level and communicable diseases were reduced from a total of 1,037 in 1921 to 569 this year.

Diphtheria, which was so malignant in the south and is active in the west now, has been absent from Rock Island since July, 1921. Diphtheria, however, has been threatening. This disease, primarily of the throat, but occasionally of the nose and larynx (croup), has undergone much scientific study and the new measures for its prevention and control have been utilized to a good advantage to the city.

The death rate, this year as in 1921, continues very low. A total of 332 deaths was reported, a mortality rate of only 9.4 a thousand. Only 24 deaths of infants under one year of age occurred, while last year there were 41. The infant death rate is 5.11, or almost half of that last year. There were 471 births in 1922, with a birth rate of 13.38 a thousand. This figure does not indicate all children born to local parents, for the reason that many (estimated at 150) births occurred in Davenport and Moline which were not recorded in the Rock Island reports. No births are registered in Rock Island unless they take place in the city.

There was a small increase in the deaths which resulted from tuberculosis and pneumonia this year, but only 39 deaths resulted from heart disease this year, in comparison to 60 in 1921. Only 19 deaths resulted from cancer this year, in comparison to 29 in 1921. Bright's disease caused seven deaths this year and six in 1921; influenza, four this year, but only one in 1921; diphtheria, three this year and two in 1921. Of 53 cases of pneumonia there were 23 deaths, and of 65 cases of tuberculosis there were 31 deaths.

Early Diagnosis Important.

In commenting on the diseases in Rock Island in the last year, Dr. Mueller says:

"For the benefit of the patient, as well as to prevent unnecessary exposure of other persons, early diagnosis of contagion is very important. When parents have suspicion that a case is contagious the patient should be isolated until a call is made by a physician. The stage in which the case is most communicable varies considerably in different diseases.

"The rules and regulations of the Illinois department of public health

HANDSOME APPAREL STORE RISES FROM RUINS OF MOST DISASTROUS FIRE IN 'LOOP' DISTRICT



The three-story brick building erected by Simon Mosenfelder at an approximate cost of \$100,000, is one of the new store buildings which adorns Second avenue between Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets.

It is known as the Mosenfelder, Inc., ladies' ready-to-wear store and

regarding the quarantine and control of communicable diseases are enforced in Rock Island, and it is the duty of every law-abiding citizen to obey them accordingly. Following quarantine, fumigating with formaldehyde is done, but there is also advised a thorough airing, sun-

is situated on the north side of the avenue.

The first floor is stocked with ladies' clothing and is used as a display and salesroom. On the second floor the offices of the store are located in the back part of the floor. In the front are the fitting rooms and women's coats and evening

gowns. The shipping and receiving rooms are situated on the third floor.

The building is located on the site of the old London building, one of the old clothing houses of this city. The London was destroyed by fire and shortly after its destruction the Mosenfelder building was erected.

The first home of the association was located in the west end of Rock Island, but after a short time it was found too small and temporary quarters were rented until the Thirty-sixth street location was purchased in 1905. It has been occupied since then continually.

This home was formerly the Gillman Moore homestead and had 14 rooms with grounds 416 feet fronting on Thirty-sixth street and 127 feet on Fifth avenue. An addition was made a few years ago.

The record of contributions in 25 years shows that the benevolence of the people of this vicinity compares favorably with that of any other community in Illinois. In fact the association has maintained Bethany Home without the efforts of field workers, upon whom most institutions of like character depend upon for finances.

If a hole were punched in an electric light bulb small enough to let in 1,000,000 atoms of oxygen a minute, it would take 100,000,000 years to fill the bulb.

BETHANY CARES FOR 135 WARDS

Never Less Than 60 Children in Home But Sickness Is Kept at Minimum.

Bethany home, located on Fifth avenue and Thirty-sixth street, maintained by the Bethany Protective association for the benefit of homeless and neglected children of Rock Island county and vicinity, had 135 children under its care during the past year, slightly less than the number handled in the home the year before, when there were 146. Although the work of the institution is somewhat limited by the size of the building, a greater household of children was taken care of and not as many changes took place this year as in the year previous, Miss Meta Smith, matron, reports.

At no time during the year were there less than 60 children in the home. Many children have been returned to their parents or guardians and a number have been placed outside. There has been but little sickness at the institution during the year.

Although the scope of the work of the home is not alone confined to the care of children—as the by-laws provide for other lines of protective work—but in fact the one clarity, that of caring for homeless and neglected children, has taken the time and efforts of the workers and friends of the association to such an extent that nothing else has been attempted in 1922.

This particular work will soon show its 25th anniversary. Records show that the first work was done on Feb. 25, 1898, when a child was found in a wooded area in the rear of a dwelling, destitute of necessary clothing and food. The child was cared for and later placed in a home. Many other similar cases were handled during the remainder of that year and the society, then called the Union Mission, was incorporated under that name July 12, 1899. In 1904 the name was changed to the Bethany Protective association.

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Rock Island Makes 30,000 Visitors Life-Long Friends in Great Convention Year

With many gatherings of a district and state classification, and a national meet of large proportions, assembled in Rock Island during 1922, a conservative estimate places the number of visitors drawn to this locality at 30,000.

It was far and away the best convention year the city has ever experienced, and the crowds were handled without difficulty, demonstrating the character of the facilities provided guests.

The convention feature of 1922 was undoubtedly the 38th annual session of the Imperial Council of the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets, a national fraternal organization, better known locally as the "Grotto."

Nearly 15,000 people invaded the tri-cities for this occasion, and from an advertising standpoint this meet is regarded as the greatest convention ever staged here.

The convention of the Prophets gave Rock Island a great deal of national publicity. It will be a long time before Rock Island will again have the opportunity of beholding such pageantry as it witnessed June 23, the closing day of the meet, when multi-colored bands, drill teams and drum corps and marching delegations of Prophets staged a mammoth parade.

Grotto decorations were everywhere and Rock Island belonged to the imperial council for three days. The parade of the Prophets has been featured on the screens of movie theatres from coast to coast.

In addition to occupying every hotel in the city, those who were not entertained in private homes made their abode in the "city on wheels," provided by the railroad companies, which parked Pullmans for many delegations.

A distinct compliment was paid Rock Island through the desire expressed by many delegations that the imperial council again choose this community as its convention city.

State Legion Guest.
Next in importance numerically was the state convention of the American Legion, secured through the efforts of Rock Island post No. 200.

The most part, entertained in private homes.

Over 300 registered delegates attended the 72nd annual convention of the Disciples of Christ in Illinois held in the Memorial Christian church, Rock Island, Oct. 3-5. One of the outstanding features was the adoption of a new constitution for the Illinois Christian missionary society.

The convention period of activity was inaugurated in March by the Sheet Metal Contractors' association of Illinois, this being followed by the meeting of the Illinois State Bottlers' association.

The period closed with the meeting of the superintendents of the Illinois Free Employment department, and the gathering of the laundrymen of the northern section of the state, both meets being staged in November.

The question has often been asked, whether or not conventions are desirable for a city. From a strictly business standpoint, revenue accrues to comparatively few lines of business, such as hotels, railroads and restaurants. The question is answered in the affirmative by the statement that such gatherings build up good will for the communities in which they are held.

The contention seems justified that it means much to Rock Island to have strangers come and go away, satisfied.

Publicity and business values are not hard to find, the publicity depending on the number attending. The business value is naturally the amount of money spent in the community by the visitors.

It is said that conventions benefit no one but hotel keepers, but as an offset to this it is declared that an analysis will show that hotel proprietors in Rock Island spent about 85 per cent of their convention income here, mostly for supplies, labor and furniture.

Furthermore, delegates buy souvenirs, and women guests shop, and investigation will demonstrate this to be no small item.

Bringing in "Capital."

The Rock Island Chamber of Commerce encourages factories to locate here, in order to increase the wealth of the city by bringing more people to spend their investment money.

The convention visitor, it has been estimated, also brings in new money, and is a "propaganda in boots" provided, however that Rock Island makes the most of its opportunities, and shows the visitors that advantages are here obtainable.

Not every city is suitable for conventions. The "good will," previously referred to, depends entirely upon the ability of Rock Island, for instance, to make delegates comfortable.

"It was shown, particularly during the Grotto convention," says Otto F. Hildebrandt, Chamber of

SALVATION ARMY EXPENDS \$5,000

Rock Island Corps Feels It Has Place in Community and Continues Its Program.

Receipts and disbursements of about \$5,000 by the Salvation Army during the past year, are reported by Captain J. W. Soderquist, successor to Captain Martin Watzner, who was in charge the greater portion of the time covered by his report.

The principal item of expense was for relief work for which \$1,297.44 was expended. The next largest item is salaries, which total \$1,304. The entire list of disbursements is as follows:

Relief work	\$1,297.44
Salaries	1,304.00
Rent	285.00
Repairs	392.93
Furniture	173.29
Fuel	242.11
Printing and stationery	176.75
Traveling expense	125.75
Telephone and telegraph	41.43
Light	105.77
Young people's work	33.89
Band	130.00
Sunday school	12.50
Interest on loan	34.53
Miscellaneous	176.37
Division fund	12.40
Harvest festival self-denial	238.20
Funeral fund	24.00

Total \$5,005.58

The present salaries, Captain Soderquist says, are \$12.50 a week, and every dollar of money given for relief or any other purpose is accounted for in the statement he submits.

Meetings have been conducted in the streets and at headquarters four times a week, and the Sunday school has been well attended.

"The Salvation Army," says Captain Soderquist, "in common with all other civic and religious organizations, has found many things to oppose and hinder its progress, owing to local conditions. We appreciate the one and pray for the other. With the help of friends and the sustaining hand of God we propose to carry on the work of the army and accomplish all the good possible in this community."

The army conducted a drive for funds in December, and from the statement of Captain Soderquist, it is evident that the work will be vigorously carried on during 1923.

Commerce secretary, "that Rock Island hotel accommodations were not sufficient. This condition will be remedied, however, when the new Fort Armstrong hotel becomes a reality."

"Thus far, there are no conventions in prospect for Rock Island in 1923," Mr. Hildebrandt states, "but a concerted effort will be made to secure them as soon as hotel facilities are better."

"Convention work is primarily an activity, and a most interesting one, of the Chamber of Commerce."

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